seasonal availability, etc. These factors vary from month-to-month and, therefore, it is not possible to predict the exact stocks of foodgrains in the Central Pool at the end of the year. However, the stock position of rice and wheat as on 1.10.1995 is roughly estimated at 14.7 million tonnes and 18.7 million tonnes respectively.

(c) and (d) Apart from meeting the normal requirement of PDS, other welfare schemes etc. the FCI is continuing sale of wheat and rice at prices lower than its economic cost in the open market. FCI has also been authorised to sell wheat and rice (fine and superfine) to exporters at prices not less than the open sale rates for the purpose of export. Exporters are free to purchase wheat and rice from the open market or FCI and export it. The FCI has, however, no plans as such to give incentives to wheat exporters. Statutory charges on foodgrains are levied by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations and the Central Government have been requesting the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations concerned to reduce the statutory taxes to the minimum possible level.

Issue of Pass Books and Annual Statements to EPF Members

2072. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is mandatory on the part of employers to issue pass books to EPF subscribers and also to provide annual return statements; if so, the details thereof;

(b) how many cases were detected by PF authorities during the last three years wherein neither pass books were issued nor annual statements were given, year-wise figures;

(c) what action Government initiated against the defaulters;

(d) what steps are being taken to ensure that the Employees Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 and rules made thereunder are strictly enforced in the country;

(e) how many defaulters were penalised under section 14B of the said Act during the last three years year-wise figures; and

(f) how many defaulters were arrested for fraud, default misappropriation and misuse of PF contributions details of each case and also action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Letters Sent by CISCE Mazdoor Sabha about PF to various Authorities

2073. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) how many letters were sent so far to the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner / Central Provident Commissioner / Government by the Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations Mazdoor Sabha;

(b) what are the details regarding the date of each letter, the demand/appeal contained and also action taken in each case;

(c) whether the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner prepared a report in this regard; if so, date on which the report was prepared; and whether the same was given to the Council; if so, the date of despatch;

(d) whether the management of the Council has prepared and submitted the requisite documents; if so, the names of the documents and dates of submission of each document and also action taken thereon; and

(e) the names of employees and also the Provident Fund amount pending against each one of them as on date?